WNYU Progress Report: Summer 1965

During the summer, New York University signed an agreement with the United Nations permitting WNYU to use the FM frequency (89.1) assigned to it by law but never yet used. If the UN ever wants to start its own FM station, it can revoke WNYU's permission to use the frequency, but we consider this extremely unlikely due to the UN's financial situation.

While negotiations for the frequency were still in progress, the WNYU staff completed the application to the FCC. When the agreement was signed, the application was sent, and the FCC is expected to consider it this month. We expect the FCC to act in our favor, since it has approved similar applications by college stations in the past.

In May, the Heights Administrative Council, now supreme authority for space matters on this campus, decided that WNYU should move out of the basement of MacCracken Hall as soon as possible. Space was allocated for us in the Gould Student Center (we will occupy the half of the Publications Office not used by the Heights Daily News--the other publications now there will be relocated) and funds were allocated for construction of new facilities there. Designs for the new facilities were completed by the staff in May and turned over to the University Architect's Office for drafting. Early in the summer th final details of design and materials were worked out and a contractor was chosen. Construction started September 13 and is expected to be completed by the end of October at the latest.

Meanwhile, extensive renovations were made in MacCracken Hall to comply with fire regulations. WNYU's old facilities are now considerably disarranged due to the construction of fireproof walls and doors in the basement of MacCracken.

The new home of WNYU will consist of two studios and two control rooms, with one of the studios doubling as an office and record library. When the construction company is finished, it will be the job of the members of WNYU to move our equipment from MacCracken Hall to the Student Center, set it up, and wire it together to create a radio station. The construction company is not building a radio station for us, but is only putting up walls, doors, and windows, and providing electricity and ventilation. An optimistic estimate of the time required for our part of the job is about two months.

Work has progressed this summer on the job of wiring the new stereo console and associated equipment and in making alterations on the old console. $2,500 was spent this summer on supplies, tools, and equipment for the new control rooms (amplifiers, speakers, etc.). Also, the station has purchased a new EMT turntable, a used AMPEX tape recorder, and an ATC tape cartridge machine--all to be used in the master control room. Finally, the transmitter and tower have been ordered; if we receive our construction permit from the FCC on time, they will be delivered in early December. As soon as possible after that, they will be installed on the South Balcony and roof of the Alumni Gymnasium, respectively.

Richard D. Robins
Acting Station Manager--
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